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Civic Theatre to Present the Tony Award Winning *RED*

What is art? And who decides?

Set in New York City in 1959, ***RED*** is an explosive study of an artist's creative process. Winner of six Tony awards including Best Play in 2010, the sizzling drama opens in the Parish Theatre beginning March 2. The play takes place during a critical moment in the career of renowned Abstract-Expressionist artist Mark Rothko as he prepares for his greatest commission, a series of murals in New York's prestigious Four Seasons restaurant.

RED reveals Rothko's and his assistant Ken's struggles to fulfill Rothko's vision for creating a revered space for his emotional paintings in what he refers to as "the temple of status and conspicuous consumption" that is the Four Seasons. Rothko truly believed that art could save humanity, so is he selling out for the commercial success the Four Season's exposure will bring him?

Raw and provocative, ***RED*** is an intense portrait of an artist's ambition and vulnerability as he tries to create a definitive work for an exceptional setting.

Following the March 3 performance, Director Stephen Carver will lead a 'Creative Conversation' with the audience featuring Ellyssa Seager and Christopher Schram from the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Ellyssa Seager studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and was attending when the Art Institute of Chicago opened its modern wing - where a number of Rothkos are on permanent display. Christopher Schram is the KIA's Director of Advancement.

RED plays in the Parish Theatre March 2, 3,9,10, 16 and 17 at 7:30pm and Sundays March 4 and 11 at 2:00pm. Ticket prices range from \$15 - \$25. For more information call 269-343-1313 or visit the Civic's website at www.kazooocivic.com.